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5. **FSANZ workshops on new breeding techniques**

- Foods produced using a number of new breeding techniques (NBTs) are close to commercialisation and governments around the world must decide whether they are subject to regulation as GM foods.
- In 2012 and 2013, FSANZ hosted two technical workshops with invited experts to consider NBTs. The purpose of the workshops was to enhance FSANZ's understanding of the techniques and any food products derived from them.
- The techniques discussed were cisgenesis/ intragenesis; GM rootstock grafting; oligo-directed mutagenesis; reverse breeding, a number of targeted mutagenic techniques, accelerated breeding following early flowering, agro-infiltration; and a proprietary hybrid production technique known as seed production technology.
- Experts also considered the scientific question of whether foods derived from plants developed using the above techniques should be regarded as GM food, or whether they are more like conventional food. The reports of both workshops are available on the FSANZ website.
- One of the scientific conclusions from these workshops was that some of the techniques (e.g. genome editing techniques, accelerated breeding, reverse breeding and seed production) may give rise to food products that are very similar or no different to conventional foods.
- FSANZ will have regard to the scientific conclusions from the workshop when considering applications to amend Standard 1.5.2.

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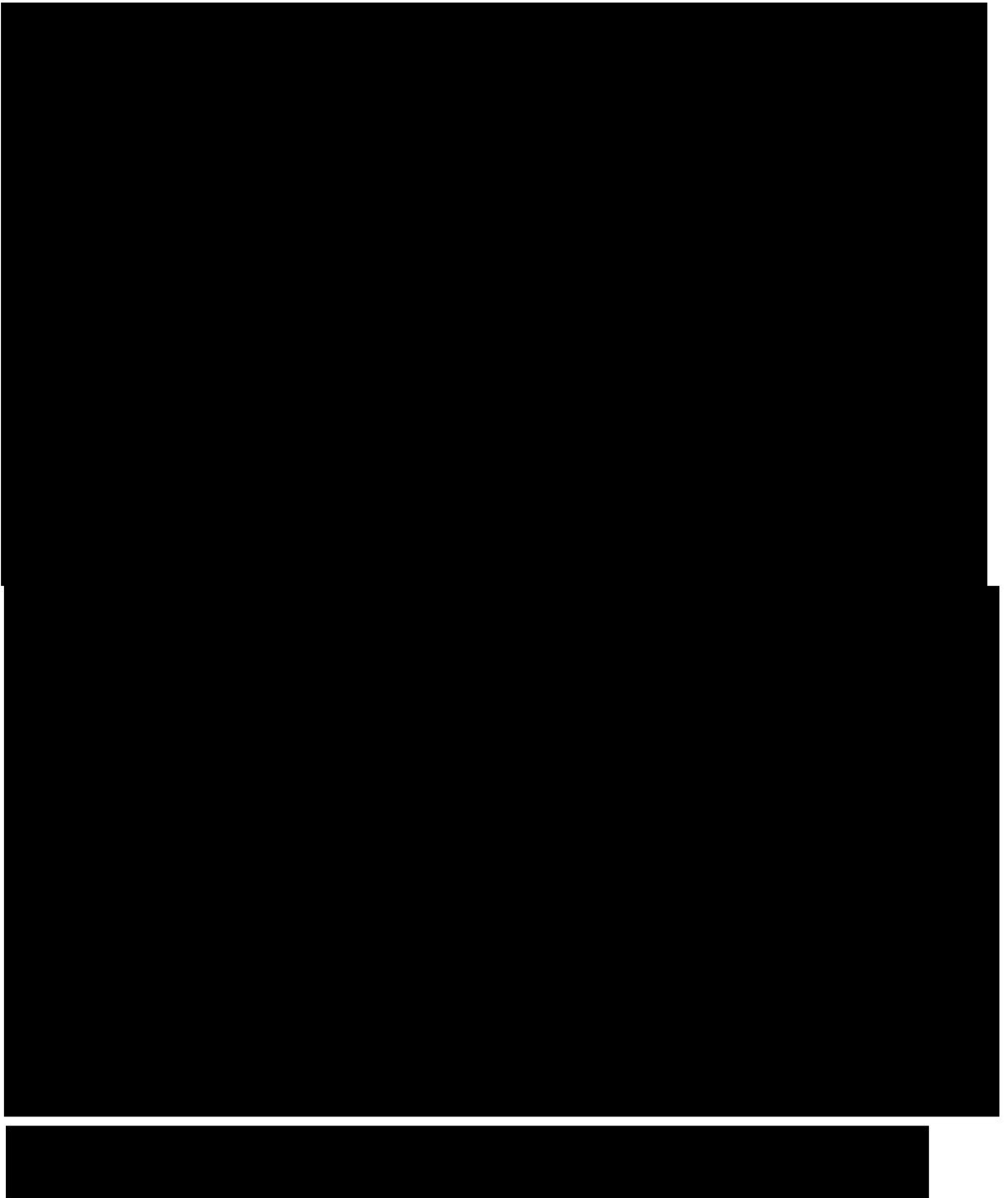
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